# WENDELL POST

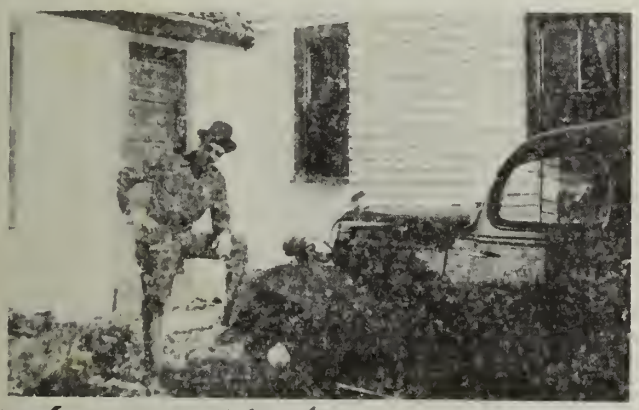
Vol. 1/No. 7 November 1977 25¢


## TREASURER RESIGNS

Town Treasurer Barbara Kavolius has submitted her resignation effective Dec. 4, 1977. The following is a statement recieved by the 'Wendell Post' from Barbara explaining her decision.

"The Town Treasurer's function in Wendell has undergone a drastic change in the last year and a half. The job content, work load, and responsibilities have increased, whereby what was once considered a 'part time' position has become a full time one, and consequently the 'part time' salary is not commenserate with the present position. The issue is not completely monetary, but maintaining a 'town office' in your home is not conducive to good business practices when a daily conflict exists between the private life and that of conducting town business. It is for these and other reasons that I have resigned as Town Treasurer."

A new Town Treasurer, Margaret L. Simos, waits in the wings to assume her duties. Already appointed by the Selectmen; she cannot officially step into the role until "bonded" by Boston. This process takes about 1½ mos. and investigates a persons financial past. This information was received in a telephone interview with Peggy Simos who is confident and eager to begin.



Rubert Goddard 1930's

## Mice Take Over

Hardware store personnel around the area agreed on the unusual severity of the mouse overpopulation problem. Nat at Town Hardware, Jean Thomas at Dirth Lumber, and the Ballous at Ballou's Feed offered as concurring evidence the massive sale of traps and poison within the last 2 months. Don Mallet at Aubuchons in Orange reported running out of traps 2 times in the last month in unprecedented sales of " 5 or 6 times as much as usual for one year." The common theory ventured was that the rain and cold had driven them in.

In a man-on-the-street interview, Ed Judice of Wendell claimed saving a whopping $27.53 by reusing his traps; "I think more Americans should re-use their mouse-traps."

In a responding interview, a limping Ken Wing disclosed that although he is finding more little dead deer mice in the refuse than bottles, he has found few traps with victims. Ironically, at the Town Dump there seems to be a rodent population decline.

Klondike, of Stone Rd., an avid re-user of mouse traps, and a self-proclaimed quick kill expert by virtue of his successful fall mouse harvest, offered some of his personal vendetta tips. "The two most important things are trap placement & proper trigger maintenance of the trap itself. Recently I found the turnpike from the outside to the inside. I caught 7 mice in 1 hr. I've been using peanut butter-very aromatic. The peanut butter oil also lubricates the bait tray trigger, which is very important."

He advocated "for the more strong-hearted" ..."leave 1/2 gal. jug of water on the floor with peanut butter floating in it." He claims he caught three in one night that way.

He suggested that disposal was a problem; but that a mouse can safely be picked up, he testified, by the tail, for their lack of strong enough haunch muscles to turn around.

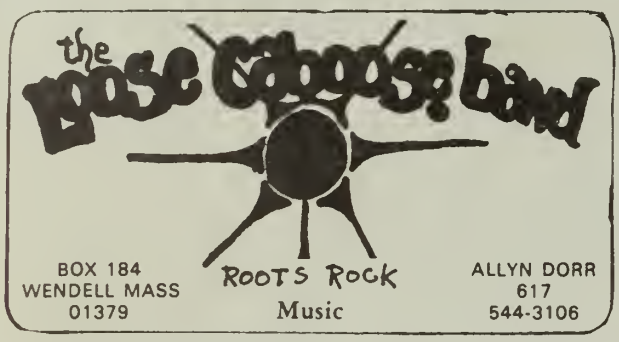


continued on page 2

mice...cont.

Looking now to science, County Extension Agent Jim Scace said mice population, like all wildlife populations, are cyclic in nature. A mouse can breed at the age of 6 weeks and will breed every six weeks from then on, having an average of 5 in a litter. The population will expand at an increasing rate until the the rodents reach a population density greater than their environment can hold. At this point the population drops drastically. This is due in large part to the unavailability of food for the over dense population. Other factors are the increased competition for mates and the greater chance of parasitic infestation resulting from increased contact with other mice.

According to ecological theory the large mouse population will cause an increase in the population of those animals that prey on the mouse. These include hawks, owls, fox, skunks, and snakes.




WENDELL POST

Vol. 1 Issue 7

This issue's staff

Kathy Becker — Michael Idoine
Lewis Becker — Robin Pierce
Anne Diemand — Penny Ricketts

Please send all manuscripts, photos, letters to:

Wendell Post
Box 113
Wendell, Mass. 01379

or call Kathy Becker at 544-7432
or Annie Diemand at 544-2762.


The Wendell Post wishes to acknowledge and express our appreciation for support and donations from so many. We still haven't reached our goal, which is a good electric typewriter, so contributions are still welcome.

ADS---Display ads are $2.00. Classified ads are 10¢ per line.

# Quabbin District Coon Hunters Assoc.

The Quabbin District Coon Hunters Assoc. origionally began in Wendell, with just Wendell members, but now its membership has grown to neighboring towns.

President Raymond Worth explained that the Annual Coon and Turkey Dinner raises money for the Coon Club to use in their varied activities. In June of each year the Coon Club holds a Night Hunt and a United Kennel Club Bench Show at Camp Anderson. The dogs "score" when the coon is treed, but the coons are not killed. The Bench Show, the showing of dogs on a bench, is how the hunters and breeders promote their dogs.

The Club also works in conjunction with the Dept. of Fisheries and Wildlife to restock raccoons. The club live traps coons where they are pests and a nuisance, and releases them in the State Forests or on private land, with the permission of the landowners. The Club some times works politically when necessary to promote the well-being of wildlife.

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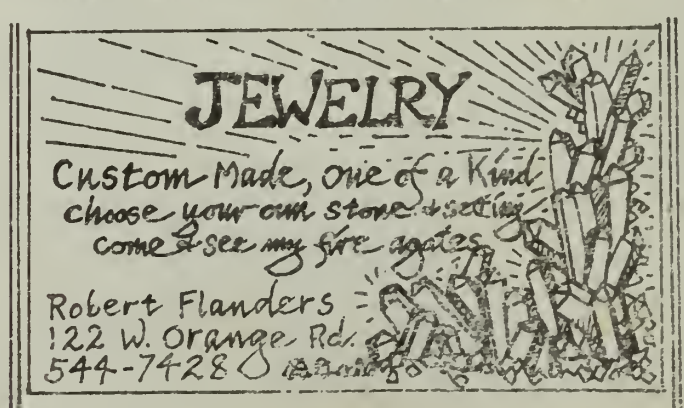


# Letters To The Editor

Wendell Post-

I have been an elected member of the Wendell School Committee for the past 2 1/2 years. My term will end on the date of the special election-Oct. 17. I have resigned as of this date because I have an opportunity to travel this winter.

I am grateful to the town for having given me the opportunity to learn as much as I have during my term. I am sure I will use my interest in and knowledge of school affairs for a long time to come, though not again as an elected official. I believe that responsibility should be spread around.

The School Committee will soon begin preparing the budget which is presented to the Town at Annual Town Meeting. Most of this budget is prepared in conjunction with New Salem. There is one issue which I would like to bring to your attention now, as none of the other committee members have been as concerned about it as I have. It concerns salaries. Most of you know that our teachers receive quite decent pay. But do you know that we-you and I- are also employing persons at wages no one could live on? Our assistant custodians are currently paid $2.80/hour. The Committee recently voted a salary schedule for cafeteria workers that starts at $2.55/hr. and ends at $3.30/hr. The teacher's aides all work for about $3.30/hr for 30 hour weeks. The secretary earns about $3.20 for a thirty hour week. Needless to say; most of the people earning these wages are women; the rationale being that they are supported by men. As more of us recognize "women's work" as being as valid as "men's work"; this concept seems clearly discriminatory against women.

There have been precious few budget items where I would recommend an increase; but I would rather have my taxes increased than be paying persons such low wages. I urge those of you who agree to talk to other school committe members; to attend the budget hearing & budget meetings of the committee; and to ask the committee for an accounting on the floor at Annual Town Meeting.

In closing; I want to wish Mary Ellen Easterbrooks the best of luck.

Sincerely,
Anne Perkins
Wendell, Mass.

**********

# Election Wrapup

SELECTBOARD RECOUNT RESULTS------NO CHANGE

Maurice Cole/69 Anne Zak/68

**********

## COMMENTARY: The Clamshell Congress

The following is a review and analysis of the Clamshell Alliance, including the recent Congress in Putney, Vt., submitted by Charles T. Smith.

In July 1976, history was made when the following document was issued:

RECOGNIZING:

1. that the survival of humankind depends upon the preservation of our natural environment;
2. that nuclear power poses a mortal threat to people and the environments;
3. that our energy needs can be adequately met through utilization of non-nuclear energy sources;
4. that energy should not be abused for private profit;
5. people should not be exploited for private profit:

The CLAMSHELL ALLIANCE; a New England organization; has been formed to:

1. stop construction of a nuclear power plant in Seabrook. N.H.;
2. assist efforts to halt nuclear plant development in New England;
3. re-assert the right of citizens to be fully informed and then to decide the nature and destiny of their own communities;
4. to achieve these goals through direct, non-violent action such as one-to-one dialogue, public prayer and fasting, public demonstrations, site occupation, and other means which put life before property.

Since that time 3 occupations at Seabrook have demonstrated the scale of support for these principles. Behind the Clamshell Alliance is an organization based upon consensus amongst all who participate. At Seabrook and the armories this ethic was lived; but few had shared in programatic formulation. The Congress held Nov. 4-6, '77; showed that even several hundred could develop structure; program and policy through consensus, in which action can be blocked by a single opposing voice.

The nuke industry represents about 2 1/2 times the capital investment as the military industrial complex behind the Viet Nam War. There can be no serious question of defeating it on its own level through money or agression, any more than the anti-war movement could out-spend or out-gun the Pentagon. A higher level of consciousness can win through a higher level of struggle. The challenge is to keep raising consciousness among enough people to be effective.

(Continued from page 4)

Clamshell Congress Cont.

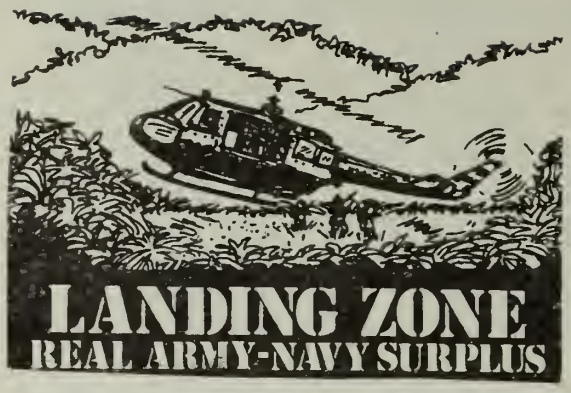
As a microcosm of the future, the Clam shows forth the dignity of women, respect for consensus, care for order and brotherhood. Art [esp. cinematography] is integral to the experience, as well as back-rubs, frisbies, and uncommon decency. Self-discipline necessarily replaces coersive games of procedure and expulsion. Consensus precludes factional in-fighting for very long. Humor punctures pomposity.

As the Clamshell Alliance grows in strength and wisdom, it manifests to the entire world that the Aquarian Age is a living contemporary reality. In a world of constant change and instant communication, the transformation of life by love renews us personally and collectively as part of the cosmic process of truth. Even the Clamshell's opponents are reached by it, as they inspire other groups wherever nukes are built. Atomic power has unleashed forces greater than itself and the Clam Congress has advanced the art of politics by and important quantum jump.

If your child want's funpage's in the wendell post — write to Gilli Ipoire ★ route Box 44 wendell mass.

Police Log

11-3 Break at Henry Schouler on Old Erving Road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25 KING ST.
NPTN, MA.
01061
(413)584-1373

11 CHAPMAN ST.
GNFIELD, MA.
01301
(413)774-3472


# Covet Not Thy Center School

The Wendell School Committee has decided to hold on to the Center School for awhile, according to Wendell School Committee representative Claire Stewart. Several factors influence this latest decision. Presently in the talking stages is a proposal to rent the Center School to the New Salem/Wendell School Committee for a pre-school program. Another consideration is the investigation by New Salem, Wendell and Erving Schools to find an alternative to Mahar. Wendell and New Salem are waiting for a report from Erving to see which way Erving will go in regards to Mahar.

When asked about the 7th and 8th grades returning to the Center School, Claire Stewart expressed her doubts, saying, "That is something we don't think is going to happen."

"We want to get the school back in shape before further decisions are made", said Claire. Superintendent of Schools, Leonard Lubinski has applied for a grant to renovate the school and keep it in condition.


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November 1 1977

# Selectmens Minutes

The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m. by Chairman Donald Ellis with Maurice Cole & Theodore Lewis present. The minutes of the Oct. 13 meeting were signed. The weekly payroll and bill warrant was signed.

The names of Art Lehman, Thomas Bardsley, Ken Wing, & Vic Coy were nominated as Civil Defense Director. The Board appointed Vic Coy Civil Defense Director.

Discussed reducing highway expenses and police department expenses.

Discussed the progress of the CETA Brush Cutting Crew.

Discussed laying off part of the highway Crew because of the lack of available funds.

Gave Lois Johnson permission to use the Town Hall on Sunday, Nov. 20th for a benefit concert.

Meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.

November 8, 1977

The Board attended a meeting on Fri., Nov. 4th, in Greenfield. The meeting was concerned with a proposal concerning a Forestry Camp Program at Wendell Forest.

Road Boss, David Bardsley and the Board discussed the Chapter 90 project.

David reported that he will be out of work for three to four weeks due to an eye operation. David reported that he has lined up work for two truck drivers while he is out. David requested that Milton Wilder be appointed Acting Road Boss while he is out of work. Effective Nov. 14th. Request granted.

David said that there is still about two weeks work of cutting left on Chapt. 90.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:36 p.m.

November 15, 1977

7:00 p.m. Opened Salt Bids.
Eastern Minerals, Inc.-$21/ton-minum load 15 -20 ton. Lowell, Mass.

International Salt Company-$23.41/ton-minimum load 15-20 ton.

Accepted Eastern Minerals, Inc.

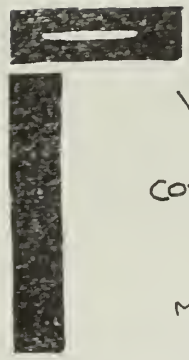
Peggy Simos inquired about the Treasurers position since Treasurer Barbara Kavolius has submitted her resignation effective Dec. 4, 1977.

Barbara Kavolius came to the meeting to explain to the Board that her resignation was not due to any disagreement with anyone. She stated that it is impossible for her to do the work in her home any longer.

The Board decided to advertise the Treasurers Position and appoint a treasurer next week.

Barbara asked the Board if they will help her move the materials out of her house by Dec. 3rd. The Board members agreed to help.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.



WOODWORKS
HANDCRAFTED
CONTEMPORARY FURNITURE

ON THE COMMON
MAIN STREET, WENDELL, MA.
(617) 544-6853


November 22, 1977

License application approved for Robert E. and Winona A. Ballou.

(1 to sell groceries , candy, soda, ice cream and to sell light lunches 7 days per week.

(2 to sell anti-freeze.
Retail Package Goods Store-All Alcoholic Beverages.

License approved.

Paul McOwen inquired about the Treasurer's position. He is not really interested in the job.

Florence Blackbird inquired by telephone about the Treasurer's position.

Peggy Simos appeared for the second time stating her interest in the Treasurer's position.

Margaret L. Simos was appointed Treasurer to fill the unexpired term of Barbara Kavolius

Paul McOwen and Dana DelRay came to the Board to request snow plowing of the Old Farley Road up to his house. Three-tenths of a mile past Cuppers. The Board asked Paul and Dana to return in two weeks for an answer.

Police Chief Ed Chase came to discuss his budget with the Board.

Meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Harry S. Williston III
Clerk

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# Small Business Licences (D.B.A)

WENDELL'S BUSINESSES AND THE D.B.A.

D.B.A.---Doing Business As Certificate.
Cost---$1.00

Who needs it?---A Massachusetts person who is doing business under a name not his or her own; such as Lucky Ducky Co. However; a person operating under his own name; such as Oliver Wendell Jr. Co. is exempt and need not file as the name belongs to him by birth.

How to get a D.B.A.---File with the Town Clerk of the Town where the business operates out of. Town Clerk Annie Hartjens can answer questions concerning this information & special proceedures relating to corporations and limited partnerships.

**********

Will do babysitting or odd jobs. Contact Robin Pierce at New Salem Rd., Wendell.

*********

The joint Wendell / New Salem School Committee meets on the first Thursday of each month at 7:30 at the new Swift River School. The Wendell School Committee rarely schedules a separate meeting because most of its business is now in conjunction with New Salem. However, Wendell residents should know that they have access to the town committee at any meeting. Agendas for joint meetings are sent home with school children during the school year. Anyone who doesn't have a school age child but who wishes to receive school committee agendas on a regular basis should call the Superintendent's office in Millers Falls at 659-3337 , and request that agendas be mailed to you.

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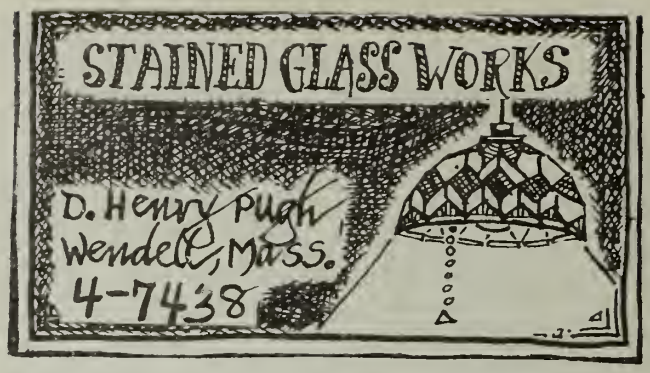


# Historical Note Origin of Name

The town of Wendell derived its name from a prominent patron and land owner, Judge Oliver Wendell. He was the president of the Union Bank of Boston. He presented the Congregational Church with a solid silver baptismal basin. This basin, on which Judge Oliver's name is inscribed, remains the property of the Church to this day. He also donated a pulpit Bible.

According to one historical account, Judge Wendell donated a bell to the Church. However, in two other histories, it was stated that a bell was provided by public subscription and not placed in the Church until 1846. Whichever account is truly accurate, let it be said that Judge Oliver Wendell was a much respected man and contributed in numerous ways to the town. His strong impact on the young community deserved recognition in the town named in his honor.

Halloween Spooks

Faith Thayer serves up another plate of chile at the sucessful benefit dinner held Nov. 20 at the Town Hall by the Millers' River Alliance, a local Environmental Action Group. The proceeds will be used to circulate information on environmental issues.

## Fires in Town

11-19 Fire on railroad tracks behind Diemand's Farm. 300 ft. of frontage was burned on tracks. There were around 12 burning bundles of ties. It took 3½ hours to put it out. Four Firefighters from the Millers Falls Department come to assist us on thier own.
11-24 One quarter mile from Wendell center there was a small electricial fire. Two firefighters were on stand by until the electric company took over.

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The Fire Association has new officers; President-Stuart Wolf
Vice President-Vic Coy
Treasurer-Harry Williston
Secretary-Everett Ricketts

**********


BALLOUS' FEEDS

Blue Seal Grains
Farm Supplies
Purina Dog + Cat Chow

ORANGE MA. 4-2158


## Posting Place

REMINDER-The Wendell Board of Health will hold its monthly Blood Pressure Clinic at the Town Hall on Monday, December 12th from 1 to 2 p.m. This is open to residents of all ages. For the convenience of those who work during the day; an additional clinic will be held in the evening from 7 to 8 p.m.

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Congratulation to Milton Bergman and Florence [Hildreth] Bergman of West Rd. on the occassion of the Birth of Michael David, October 7, 1977.

**********

Need area talent for Variety Show to be held at the Wendell Town Hall. The proceeds will benefit the Wendell Old Home Day Fund. If interested contact Robin at 4-6390 or Pat at 4-3529.

**********

Movies will be coming again soon to the Town Hall!

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The annual Christmas party for all Wendell children through the sixth grade will be held at the Town Hall at 7 p.m. on Thursday night, Dec. 15th.

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Mrs. Juanita Read has returned from a month's vacation in Florida.

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Volleyball for women on Thursdays between 7 and 9 at the Swift River School.

## Lost and Found

FOUND, one aluminum canoe. Call Anne Diemand at 544-2762.

For LOST and FOUND, write P.O. Box 113, Wendell.

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CHIM-CHIMNEY SWEEPS
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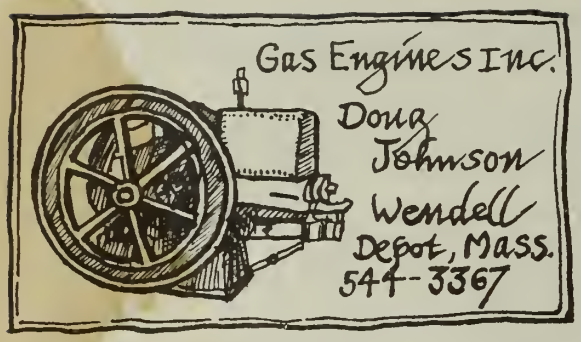


Wendell Golden Agers recently dined at the Old Mill Restaurant in celebration of six birthdays of its members Betty Thompson, Virginia Wheeler, Dett Oliver, Warren Oliver, Maurice Cole, and Agnes Telling. On Nov. 30th members and friends will meet to make Christmas wreaths. On Dec. 14th, a turkey dinner will be enjoyed at the Town Hall for members and guests. At a recent meeting, it was voted to withdraw twenty dollars from the club's fund to give to the Children's Christmas party. An additional seventy dollars was given by members personally to make a total of ninety dollars.

# RURAL ARTS PROGRAM UPDATE

The October issue of the Wendell Post announced the formation of the Rural Arts Program. Its Advisory Board members include Leonard Strauss Principal of the Swift River School, Peggy Simos, Janie Stone and Pat Judice representing Wendell, and Linda Overing, Madge Cosseboom, and Corin Emge from New Salem. If anyone has any questions regarding the Rural Arts Program, please feel free to contact any one of its members.

The Rural Arts Program has reached its first goal by offering two courses, pottery and puppetry, to the children in grades 3-6 at the Swift River School. There has been a strong and favorable response with 17 children presently enrolled in the 6 week course, taught by Lyn Harrod of Shutesbury. The 3 week puppetry course, taught by Sarah Elston of Haydenville, still has a few openings with the first class starting on Nov. 30th.

Interested people are needed to work on the next goal - offering adult evening classes to begin in late Jan.

# Library News

The library is seeking the donation of a comfortable easy chair. Call 4-3970.

Two new magazines are now available at the library - Prevention, a health magazine published by the Rodale Press and Consumers Research Report.

Books, magazines, toys and records may now be borrowed for a one month period instead of the old 2 week limit.

The Wendell Free Library is the recipient of a valuable bibliographic aid now available for use - four volumes were obtained from the University of Massachusetts as their 1976 edition discards. However, for most purposes, the material in our copies will suffice. Books in Print includes some 355,000 titles ranging from children's books to paperbacks and textbooks. Information includes author, title, price, edition, publisher, year of publication, illustration, series, and more. Each volume also includes a subject guide. Books in Print is invaluable as an assist in finding out all the books one author has written, or names of titles that cover the same subject. Books not found in our own library may be obtained from another library in the state by requesting as interlibrary loan.

---- Tina Cohen

# School News

The number of Wendell children in the Swift River School has jumped to 88. New Salem has only 81 this year. Therefore our share of next year's joint school budget is going to be about 52.71% compared with last year's 48.41%. It might be worth your while to attend the school budget hearing when it is scheduled - probably in December.

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